

REMARKS

1. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-8, stand rejected as anticipated by Yamamoto et al. Applicant traverses.

There are two key differentiations between the Yamamoto device and the device of the present invention. First, in the present invention, the engine and the electric motor are connected by a standard transmission belt. (Claim 1, lines 12-18.) In the Yamamoto device, the engine and the electric motor are in communication via a cvt (continuously variable transmission). This difference is crucial because with the one-to-one transmission assured with the standard belt of the present invention, synchronous rotation of the engine and the electric motor is assured. Therefore the percentage of power transmission is very high. Synchronous rotation is not assured with a cvt.

Second, the electric motor and the secondary shaft are placed on opposite sides of the motor. (Claim 1, lines 5-6 and 9-10.) This means that energy from the electric motor must pass through the engine. The electric motor can only supplement the engine. The Yamamoto device enables independent energy transmission for the electric motor. The electric motor alone can drive the vehicle. However, the necessity of two cvt's reduces the efficiency of the device, and creates additional expense due to the necessity of the second transmission.

In order to anticipate or to render obvious claims, the prior art must disclose or indicate all the elements of the claims. In this instance, there is no reference in the cited prior art that teaches a device with the engine and the electric motor connected by a standard transmission belt and with the electric motor and the secondary shaft on opposite sides of the engine as is claimed in the present claims. Accordingly, the prior art cannot

be said to anticipate or to render obvious the present claims.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant now asserts that all of the grounds for rejection have been traversed or overcome by amendment, and that all of the present claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Applicant therefore requests reconsideration of the objections and rejections, and solicits allowance of the present claims at an early date.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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